

By: Zaffirini, Gutierrez

S.B. No. 696

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to authorizing certain counties to impose a hotel occupancy tax and the use of revenue from that tax.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 352.002, Tax Code, is amended by adding Subsection (bb) to read as follows:

(bb) The commissioners court of a county with a population of less than 60,000 in which an annual strawberry festival is held in a location that is not the county seat of the county may impose a tax as provided by Subsection (a).

SECTION 2. Section 352.003, Tax Code, is amended by adding Subsection (z) to read as follows:

(z) The tax rate in a county authorized to impose the tax under Section 352.002(bb) may not exceed two percent of the price paid for a room in a hotel.

SECTION 3. Subchapter B, Chapter 352, Tax Code, is amended by adding Section 352.112 to read as follows:

Sec. 352.112. USE OF REVENUE: CERTAIN COUNTIES HOLDING AN ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL. The revenue from a tax imposed under this chapter by a county authorized to impose the tax under Section 352.002(bb) may be used only for the construction, enlarging, equipping, improvement, maintenance, repairing, and operation of a civic center with an arena used for rodeos, livestock shows, and agricultural expositions to substantially enhance hotel activity

1 and encourage tourism.

2 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.